

Youthful Drivers

Table 34 shows the collisions involving drivers age 15 to 19. In 1999, youthful driver collisions represented 29% of all collisions. In 1999, drivers age 15-19 represented 9% of the licensed drivers; yet youthful drivers represented 19% of drivers in all collisions and 16% of drivers in fatal and serious injury collisions.

Table 34 Youthful Drivers (15 to 19 Years Old) in Collisions: 1996-1999						
	1996	1997	1998	1999	Change 1998-99	Avg. Yearly Change 1996-98
Total Collisions	7,294	7,563	7,618	7,258	-4.7%	2.2%
Fatalities	54	58	55	66	20.0%	1.1%
Serious Injuries	585	539	540	463	-14.3%	-3.8%
Visible Injuries	1,721	1,869	1,804	1,632	-9.5%	2.6%
Possible Injuries	2,733	2,555	2,451	2,382	-2.8%	-5.3%
Drivers 15-19 in Fatal & Serious Injury Collisions	496	490	467	395	-15.4%	-3.0%
% of all Drivers in Fatal & Serious Injury Collisions	20.4%	19.0%	18.3%	15.9%	-13.1%	-5.3%
Licensed Drivers 15-19	75,486	76,704	77,712	77,943	0.3%	1.5%
% of Total Licensed Drivers	9.1%	9.0%	8.9%	8.8%	-0.9%	-1.0%
Driver Involvement Rate*	2.24	2.11	2.05	1.80	-12.3%	-4.4%
Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	51	52	51	64	25.5%	0.0%
Impaired Teen Drivers in Fatal Crashes	4	15	9	11	22.2%	117.5%
% of Youthful Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes that were Impaired	7.8%	28.8%	17.6%	17.2%	-2.6%	114.5%
<i>*The Driver Involvement Rate is the percent of drivers involved in fatal and serious injury collisions divided by percent of licensed drivers. Over-representation occurs when the value is greater than 1.0.</i>						

In 1999, the economic cost of collisions involving youthful drivers was \$409,910,491. This represents 26% of the total cost of collisions in 1999 (as shown in Table 4).